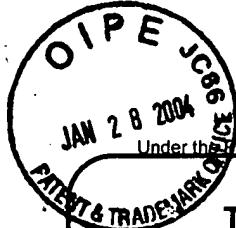


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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/642,351		
Filing Date	August 15, 2003		
First Named Inventor	Spencer B. Dick		
Art Unit	3724		
Examiner Name			
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7	Attorney Docket Number	PAI 308A

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): return receipt postcard
Remarks		

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Pierre C. Van Rysselberghe Kolisch Hartwell, P.C.	
Signature		
Date	January 27, 2004	

### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Pamela A. Knight	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

January 27, 2004

SPENCER B. DICK

Serial No. : 10/642,351 Our File - PAI 308A

Filed : August 15, 2003 Art Unit 3724

For : CARRIAGE COUPLING DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir :

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98**

Applicant is submitting this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the patents, publications, applications, and/or other references listed on the enclosed, completed PTO-1449 form(s). The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the listed references are prior art for this application. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed references be expressly considered during prosecution of the application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patents issuing therefrom.

## **CONTENT OF DISCLOSURE**

This Information Disclosure Statement includes (1) four (4) pages of PTO-1449 forms, and (2) a legible copy of each foreign and non-patent reference, if any, listed on the form(s). However, because this application was filed on or after July 1, 2003, no copies of U.S. patents or published U.S. patent applications are included.

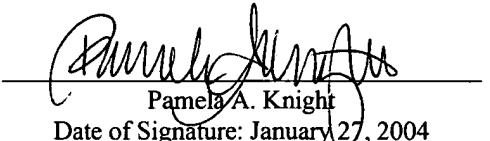
## **TIMING OF DISCLOSURE / FEE INFORMATION**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, either (1) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, or (2) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions or comments regarding this Information Disclosure Statement.

### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

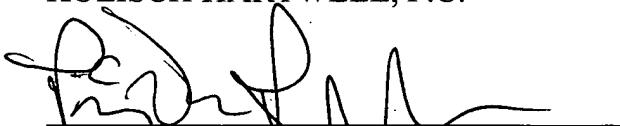
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on January 27, 2004.

  
Pamela A. Knight

Date of Signature: January 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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SHEET 1 OF 4

FORM PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		DOCKET NUMBER PAI 308A	APPLICATION NUMBER 10/642,351
		APPLICANT(S) Spencer B. Dick	
		FILING DATE August 15, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3724

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FIL. DATE IF APPROP.
	Re.35,663	11/18/97	Mori et al.			
	2,577,766	12/11/51	Johnson et al.			
	3,170,736	2/23/65	Wright			
	3,566,239	7/3/67	Taniguchi			
	3,584,284	9/12/69	Beach			
	3,814,153	6/4/74	Schmidt			
	3,854,889	12/17/74	Lemelson			
	4,221,974	9/9/80	Mueller et al.			
	4,260,001	4/7/81	De Muynck			
	4,358,166	11/9/82	Antoine			
	4,453,838	6/12/84	Loizeau			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED



SHEET 2 OF 4

FORM PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION	DOCKET NUMBER PAI 308A	APPLICATION NUMBER 10/642,351
	APPLICANT(S) Spencer B. Dick	
	FILING DATE August 15, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3724

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

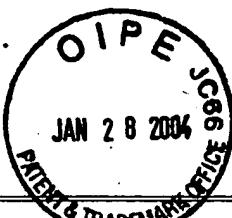
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FIL. DATE IF APPROP.
	4,472,783	9/18/84	Johnstone et al.			
	4,725,961	2/16/88	Pearl			
	4,874,996	10/17/89	Rosenthal			
	4,878,524	11/7/89	Rosenthal et al.			
	5,054,938	10/8/91	Ide			
	5,197,172	3/30/93	Takagi et al.			
	5,251,142	10/5/93	Cramer			
	5,266,878	11/30/93	Makino et al.			
	5,365,812	11/22/94	Harnden			
	5,418,729	5/23/95	Holmes et al.			
	5,444,635	8/22/95	Blaine et al.			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED



SHEET 3 OF 4

FORM PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		DOCKET NUMBER PAI 308A	APPLICATION NUMBER 10/642,351			
		APPLICANT(S) Spencer B. Dick				
		FILING DATE August 15, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3724			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FIL. DATE IF APPROP.
	5,472,028	12/5/95	Faulhaber			
	5,489,155	2/6/96	Ide			
	5,524,514	6/11/96	Hadaway et al.			
	5,664,888	9/9/97	Sabin			
	5,797,685	8/25/98	Jurik et al.			
	5,798,929	8/25/98	Stenzel et al.			
	5,829,892	11/3/98	Groves			
	5,865,080	2/2/99	Jackson			
	5,933,353	8/3/99	Abriam et al.			
	5,938,344	8/17/99	Sabin			
	5,953,232	9/14/99	Blaimschein			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES      NO
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED					



SHEET 4 OF 4

FORM PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		DOCKET NUMBER PAI 308A	APPLICATION NUMBER 10/642,351
		APPLICANT(S) Spencer B. Dick	
		FILING DATE August 15, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3724

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FIL. DATE IF APPROP.
	5,964,536	10/12/99	Kinoshita			
	6,144,895	11/7/00	Govindaraj et al.			
	6,263,773	7/24/01	McAdoo et al.			
	6,272,437	8/7/01	Woods et al.			
	6,379,048	4/30/02	Brissette			
	6,463,352	10/8/02	Tadokoro et al.			
	6,470,377	10/22/02	Sevcik et al.			
	6,510,361	1/21/03	Govindaraj et al.			
	6,520,228	2/18/03	Kennedy et al.			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED